(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to improve the testing factilities for medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The Chemical testing laboratories attached to the Medical Store Depots are equipped to carry out simple testing of drugs. The laboratories, however, do not have sophisticated equipments like Infrared Spectrophotometer and gas liquid Chromatograph.

(b) and (c) During the 7th Plan, a plan scheme for the medical stores organisation as a whole has been approved, which includes a scheme for development of the testing laboratories.

Strike call by the D.T.C. Employees

*35. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Miniter of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Transport Corporation employees have decided to go on strike to press their demands for implementation of the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to settle the disputes with the employees of the DTC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No notice of strike has been received by DTC, although some reports have appeared in the press in this regard.

(b) Revision in the pay scales of Public Sector Undertakings having Central Pay pattern stands referred to the High Power Pay Committee set up by the Government under the directions of the Supreme Court.

Recently two unions of DTC employees have also filed writ petitions before the Supreme Court for implementtion of the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission to the D.T.C. employees.

Regulation for the Sale of the Ayurvedic Medicines and Tonics

*36. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any rules regulating the sale of Ayurvedic medicines and tonics;

(b) if so, whether these rules are being enforced effectively; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) (a) to (c) Under the existing provision of Drugs & Cosmetic Act, 1940, there is no provision for sale licence for Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani drugs. Anyone can sell these drugs if manufactured by a Pharmaceutical concern licensed for the purpose.

Cancer Treatment with Hyperthermia

*37. SHRI K. GOPALAN:
SHRI V. GOPALASAMY:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to make Hyperthermia a new treatment for cancer, available in the Government hospitals in India; and

(b) if so, how many patients can get the benefit annually with the facilities so far provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The technique and the efficacy of Hyperthermia for treatment of cancer are under investigation at pesent